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Title:

Press release - Wine Grape Prices

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PRESS RELEASE FROM THE PREMIER, MR. DUNSTAN.WINE GRAPE PRICES.

16/12/71.

The Premier, Mr. Dunstan, today announced that a new Prices order, gazetted today, fixing minimum prices for wine grapes for the 1972 vintage provided for an increase of \$2.00 per ton on all varieties in both the irrigated and non-irrigated areas.

"The increase is not a satisfactory one but is the best that can be achieved in the light of the situation brought about by the increased Federal excise duty on wine.

"The South Australian Government has repeatedly pressed for this inequitable increase to be repealed and I take this opportunity to formally appeal again to the Prime Minister to remove it", the Premier said.

The Premier said that the Commissioner for Prices and Consumer Affairs, Mr. Baker, had carried out a detailed investigation which had taken into account all aspects of both the wine grapegrowing and winemaking industries. It was understood that, because of the levelling off in wine sales resulting from the excise duty imposed by the Commonwealth Government and consequent build up in stocks, some wineries would be reducing intakes.

In other wineries, storage might not be sufficient to absorb all grapes being offered, especially if there was a large vintage.

The wine grapegrowing industry was now facing the likelihood of surpluses and one aspect causing concern was the continued plantings of wine grapes. Large areas in several states were being planted and unless sales continued to grow, surpluses could become a regular feature.

Because of the problems confronting the Industry, a cautious approach had been adopted in fixing minimum prices for the 1972 vintage.

In some recent years, growers had received price increases in excess of cost increases in accordance with the general improvement in the profitability of the wine industry.

However, on this occasion, the price increase would cover only part of the fairly heavy cost increases incurred by growers in the last 12 months.

New minimum prices and increases for the various varieties were as follows:

<u>Variety</u>	Irrigated Areas		Non-Irrigated Areas	
	Price per ton ex vineyard	Increase per ton	Price per ton delivered to winery or distillery	Increase per ton
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Albillo (Sherry)			75.50	2.00
Cabernet Gros			82.00	2.00
Cabernet Sauvignon	113.00	2.00	132.00	2.00
Carignane	66.00	2.00	81.00	2.00
Currant	57.00	2.00		
Doradillo	57.00	2.00	66.50	2.00
Frontignan - red	70.50	2.00	81.00	2.00
Frontignan - white	75.50	2.00	89.00	2.00
Grenache - black	63.50	2.00	78.00	2.00
Grenache - white	57.00			
Malbec	82.00	2.00	101.00	2.00
Mataro (False morrastel)	63.50	2.00	78.00	2.00
Muscat Gordo Blanco	58.00	2.00	70.00	2.00
Oeillade (Cinsaut)			75.50	2.00
Palomino (Paulo, Listan, Sweetwater)	58.00	2.00	68.00	2.00
Pedro Ximenez	58.00	2.00	68.00	2.00
Portugal			77.00	2.00
Riesling - Clare	78.00	2.00	90.00	2.00
Riesling - Rhine	104.00	2.00	117.00	2.00
Rosaki (Malaga)	57.00	2.00		
Sauvignon Blanc	104.00	2.00	117.00	2.00
Semillon (Madeira)	78.00	2.00	90.00	2.00
Sercial			70.00	2.00
Shiraz	86.00	2.00	106.00	2.00
Sultana	58.00	2.00		
Tokay			100.00	2.00
Trebbiano (White Hermitage)	67.50	2.00	78.50	2.00
Verdelho			85.00	2.00
	<u>Price per Baume</u>		<u>Price per Baume</u>	
Mixed or unsound grapes not suitable for beverage wine or brandy	4.00	0.30	4.00	0.30

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